IRWIN, R [M.P.P., Shelburne, N.S.] May-June. 1919 (030)

241

Shelburne
nova Scotia
May 26th 1919

Sir Robert Falconer
Pres't Toronto University
Toronto

Dear President Falconer

I note by the public press ~~of~~ the resolutions passed by representatives of Canadian Universities at Ottawa last week, and I wish to say that in my estimation this is a step in the right direction and it would seem to me that the Govt of Canada would do well to act upon the suggestions made at this meeting as there is evidently to day too much discrimination made by the Commission between certain classes of returned men in applying the same test for educational assistance, for up to the present as far as my information goes

goes, there is no assistance rendered by the Govt to any young man, in an educational way, if he has not been a casualty at some time ~~in~~ during his service, or is what is known as a Category man.

There must be many cases of returned soldiers who left High school, to join the Army a few years ago, and who have been fortunate enough to get back safely and in A.1. Class, and it will in many cases require just that much extra inducement to persuade boys or young men of this class, to go into the schools and colleges of Canada again to finish their education, where, without it, they would go through life handicapped, and without that advanced education which would be needed by them all to fill more important positions in life,

I am somewhat affected personally,

for a son of mine left High School on completion of his course and enlisted with 85th Batt'n C.E.F. 1st Highlanders, when only 17 years old and I am happy to say has returned home, now discharged as A.1.

Now this young man is looking for the college in Canada which gives a course similar to the Course given in Harvard "of Business Administration" and up to the present I have not been able to discover it in Canada, but I would be extremely obliged if your University put on a course of this nature, if you would kindly forward me that part of your official Register which contains the curriculum.

Whether the Govt comes to the aid of returned men in this class or not will not of course make any difference, as for as these plans go, of course, but there are probably thousands of men who will not seek advanced education

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HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
NOVA SCOTIA

if they are not assisted to some extent by the Govt.

I would like it very much however if your University furnished the Course which I have referred, so that my son can take advantage of it, as another son of mine informs me that it is his intention to enter the Univ. in the Medical College, next term, and I would very much like to have both boys going to the same University the next term.

I would be very glad if you kindly furnish me with the information which I have outlined above

Yours Sincerely
Robert Irwin

June 2nd, 1919

R. Irwin, Esq., M.P.P.,

Shelburne, N.S.

Dear Mr. Irwin:

I am glad to know from your letter that you approve of the action of the Universities in endeavouring to secure financial assistance for those soldiers who have gone overseas who desire it and are capable of resuming their education.

You are correct in supposing that only those who have been wounded get help from the Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, there are many young fellows who, however, have been unable to resume their work, and I hope that they will get help from the Government. I am drawing up a memorandum to present to Sir Robert Borden. If you can lend any help to get it carefully considered I shall be obliged to you.

With regard to your son's case I assume that he has what would be regarded as an equivalent of our matriculation certificate. We do not give a course similar to that in Harvard in business administration, which is a graduate course. We have, however, had for some years a very successful department of Commerce and Finance which prepares for young men to go into business or actuarial work, and business in which higher qualities of finance are essential.

The new calendar which has unfortunately been

greatly delayed is now being prepared, and I will have a copy sent to you when it is ready. Meantime I send you the old calendar. If there is anything further I can do for you I shall be most happy to be of assistance.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.